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# MISSOURI HISTORICAL REVIEW

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## THE NEW MADRID AND OTHER EARTHQUAKES OF MISSOURI.

Slight shocks of earthquakes are not uncommon in the United States, but the three most prominent have been New Madrid, Charleston and San Francisco. Had New Madrid been a city like either of the others, the earthquake there would have been the best known and the most terrible of the three.

New Madrid was on the Mississippi river, sixty miles south of the junction of the Ohio and the Mississippi. A trading post was started in 1803 by Francois and Joseph Le Sieur, and in 1788 Gen. Morgan of New Jersey laid out a pretentious town there. In 1811 it was a large town, St. Louis being the only larger one in what is now Missouri.

The settlement at La Petite Prairie (Little Prairie), was begun in 1794, by Francois Le Sieur, a little below the present town of Caruthersville in Pemiscot county, and about thirty miles below New Madrid. In 1803 the village had 103 inhabitants, and continued to increase until the earthquake almost entirely destroyed it. Its site was long since carried away by the Mississippi river.<sup>1</sup> McBride found there some twenty houses, and

1. *History of Southeast Missouri.* Chicago, 1888, p. 300.

a settlement extending six or eight miles back from the river.

The country affected by the earthquake extended from the mouth of the Ohio to the St. Francis river, a front of three hundred miles or more. In this territory the effects were so great that they were still visible a half century later, and in lesser degree they were felt even to the Atlantic coast.

There is a general popular belief of a close connection between volcanoes and earthquakes, but many noted earthquakes have occurred far distant from volcanoes. Those of Calabria, of Cutch, of Charleston, of the Riviera, as well as that of New Madrid were not in volcanic regions. Others have occurred at the same time as violent volcanic eruptions, sometimes in the same part of the country, and sometimes at a distance without occurring at places nearby. The night that was conspicuous for subterranean thunder at New Madrid was the same time as the fearful Caraccas earthquake, where thousands of the people were crushed beneath the ruins of their stone houses, although the concussions were probably not more violent than in the Mississippi valley.<sup>2</sup> Humboldt states that the shocks at New Madrid were the only examples on record of the ground quaking almost incessantly for three months at a point so far from an active volcano.

As the country was so sparsely settled at the time of the earthquake it would not be expected that as full accounts of it would be preserved as from a well settled locality, but the State Historical Society of Missouri is fortunate in having in its library the statements given by many persons who experienced the earthquake, or by persons who soon after visited the locality, and recorded

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2. Flint. Hildreth.

the accounts of those who were witnesses of the events narrated by them. This paper is written from such records—those that can be rated as original sources of information. There are accounts of the earthquake in various books, magazines and newspapers, that are not here quoted, as they generally do not refer to authorities for what they tell; this is especially noticeable in an account published in Popular Science Monthly, and written by one connected with the United States Geological Survey, in which no authority is given, and of the only quotation made, it is not stated from whom it is taken.

Among perhaps the most competent observers of the earthquake was John Bradbury, an Englishman then traveling in this country, who arrived at New Madrid by boat on the evening of December 14, 1811, and the evening of the next day reached Devil's Channel, below the upper Chickasaw Bluffs, where the boat tied up at a small island, and where he first experienced the earthquake.<sup>3</sup>

L. Bringier was near New Madrid, traveling on horse-back at the time of the earthquake, and soon after wrote of it.<sup>4</sup>

Col. John Shaw was thirty miles North of New Madrid at the beginning of the earthquake, and was for days a witness to what he recorded.<sup>5</sup>

William Leigh Pierce was on a boat from Pittsburgh to New Orleans, entered the Mississippi December 13th, and on the evening of the 15th tied up to the shore below New Madrid, at a point which he states was 116 miles from the mouth of the Ohio, but was probably less than that. In a letter written from "Big Prairie," dated

3. See Bibliography No. 1.

4. See Bibliography No. 3.

5. See Bibliography No. 16.

December 25, 1811, to the New York Evening Post, he gave an account of the earthquake. This letter and a later one, with letters from two other persons to other papers were published in a pamphlet at Newburyport, Massachusetts.<sup>6</sup>

Eliza Bryan lived at New Madrid before and during the earthquake, and in a letter dated March 22, 1816, to Rev. Lorenzo Dow, the evangelist, she gave an account of her experiences in it.<sup>7</sup>

James McBride with others were taking supplies from Ohio to New Orleans, by two boats. The first shocks occurred while they were in the Ohio river. When they reached New Madrid they moored their boats where a part of the town had been, but was now a part of the river. The burial place had partly disappeared in the river, and coffins were exposed along the bank. He went on shore with difficulty, and went some two miles back from the river. All the houses although built of logs were prostrated or nearly overturned and wrecked. He found three Frenchmen who were sheltering themselves by some boards taken from the buildings, and they were the only inhabitants left. On April 1, 1812, he wrote to his aunt in Pennsylvania, from a place above Natchez.<sup>8</sup>

Dr. Foster while traveling on the Mississippi met a Mr. A. N. Dillard, who lived near New Madrid, was a witness of the earthquake, and related to him his experiences and observations in it, and Foster also visited the locality and talked with other persons.<sup>9</sup>

Dr. Hildreth's account of the earthquake was given him by one who at the time of its occurrence was about

6. See Bibliography No. 14.
7. See Bibliography No. 5.
8. See Bibliography No. 11.
9. See Bibliography No. 7.

forty miles below New Madrid, on a flat boat on his way to New Orleans.<sup>10</sup>

Professor Broadhead's account of the earthquake is made up largely of quotations from the publications mentioned in the accompanying bibliography.<sup>11</sup>

Timothy Flint was not in the earthquake, but he and his family spent the winter of 1819-20 at New Madrid, where he talked with many persons who related the facts, and his account is from what he saw and heard.<sup>12</sup>

Michael Brounme lived in Pemiscot county a half mile from the center of disturbance, and his account is given in the history of an adjoining county.<sup>13</sup>

Godfrey Le Sieur, the son of Francois Le Sieur, the founder of Little Prairie was in the earthquake, and he wrote an account of it in 1871 to Prof. A. D. Hagar, formerly State Geologist of Missouri.<sup>14</sup>

Sir Charles Lyell visited New Madrid and vicinity in 1846, and conversed with many persons who were there during the earthquake. He visited the former Lake Eulalie, and talked with Mr. W. Hunter, the owner of it.<sup>15</sup>

Wetmore gave an account of a Mr. Walker, a "field naturalist," accompanied by a Frenchman of Little Prairie. His account, in part at least, was, doubtless, also derived from other persons who were in the earthquake.<sup>16</sup>

"Fagots from the Camp Fire" was an account of the earthquake as given to the author by a woman whose

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10. See Bibliography No. 8.
11. See Bibliography No. 4.
12. See Bibliography No. 6.
13. See Bibliography No. 2.
14. See Bibliography No. 9.
15. See Bibliography No. 10.
16. See Bibliography No. 17.

father was in the earthquake; but the account bears evidence of having been made up rather by the author than by the widow whose hospitality he was sharing during the Civil War, but at the same time he was thinking more of his belief that she was scheming to have him captured by the Confederates than of recording the story of this earthquake.<sup>17</sup>

Rozier in his History of the Early Settlements of the Mississippi Valley has the accounts as given by Lewis F. Linn, Henry Howe in his "Great West" and Le Sieur.<sup>18</sup>

Prof. Shepard's theory of the cause of the earthquake will be noticed later.<sup>19</sup>

John J. Audubon, the Naturalist, at the time of the earthquake was traveling in Kentucky on horseback; and in his Journal tells of his experiences.<sup>20</sup>

The first shock of the earthquake was at two o'clock A. M. of December 16, 1811.<sup>21</sup>

A half hour after the first shock there was another as severe, and others followed six to ten minutes apart, and by daylight twenty-seven shocks had occurred. In the morning several more severe shocks occurred, and on the 17th three more severe ones, at 5, 7, and 12 o'clock.<sup>22</sup>

Lighter shocks were felt afterwards till January 23rd, when there was one as violent as any.<sup>23</sup> The earth was in continual agitation, visibly waving as a

17. See Bibliography No. 20.

18. See Bibliography No. 21.

19. See Bibliography No. 19.

21. Le Sieur. Bryan. Bradbury. Hildreth. Dillard. Pierce says about midnight. Shaw says 2 o'clock A. M. Dec. 14.

22. Bradbury.

23. Bryan. Col. Shaw does not mention any shocks between the first one and this one, which he says was at 2 o'clock A. M. and that it was the greater shock.

gentle sea until February 4th, and on the 7th at 4 o'clock A. M. one more violent than any which had preceded, and which was called the "hard shock."<sup>24</sup> And this was so severe as far away as St. Louis that fowls fell from the trees and crockery fell from shelves. Miss Bryan, writing in March, 1816, said the shocks had continued to that time, and that during the preceding winter two had occurred that were more severe than any others had been for two years previously.

Jared Brooks at Louisville seems to have kept an account of the number of shocks felt at that place, and to have divided them into six classes according to intensity, and in the thirteen weeks following the first shock he recorded eight of the greatest severity, ten of the second class, and in all a total of 1874 shocks.<sup>25</sup>

A letter in the Louisiana Gazette from Cape Girardeau, dated February 15, 1812, stated that the shock of February 7th at that place was more violent than that of December 16, and lasted longer, the earth being in constant motion for an hour. Considerable damage had been done to buildings in the town.<sup>26</sup>

The shocks were easily distinguished into two classes, those in which the motion was horizontal, and those in which it was perpendicular. The latter were the ones that were attended with the explosions, the terrifying noises and the engulfing waters, but they were not so destructive as the others.<sup>27</sup>

The shocks sometimes came on gradually and finally

24. Bryan. Le Sieur says this one made deep lakes of high land.

25. See Bibliography No. 12. Pierce gives a list of eighty-nine shocks from the 16th to the 23rd, but also mentions that on the 17th there was a continued series of shocks with very little intermission.

26. History of Southeast Missouri. Chic. 1888, p. 307.

27. Flint. Lyell.

culminated; again they would come without premonition and with terrific force and then gradually subside.<sup>28</sup>

Bradbury says the shocks came from a little northward of east and proceeded westward, while others say they came from the west or southwest.<sup>29</sup>

The noise was described as "inconceivably loud and terrific,"<sup>30</sup> as distant rumbling sounds succeeded by discharges as if a thousand pieces of artillery were suddenly exploded;<sup>31</sup> or as loud but distant thunder and more hoarse and vibrating;<sup>32</sup> a noise that with the accompanying crashing of trees, the tottering and shaking of the earth so that persons could not stand or walk;<sup>33</sup> these and the bursting of the ground not only frightened the people, in one case so badly as to cause the death of a woman, but so that birds and animals screamed in their fright, the cattle crowded around the assembled men for companionship and protection, and birds lost all power and disposition to fly, and they too sought the protection of man.<sup>34</sup>

Accompanying the noise the whole land was moved and waved like the waves of the sea,<sup>35</sup> violently enough to throw persons off their feet, the waves attaining a height of several feet, and at the highest point would burst throwing up large volumes of sand, water and in some cases a black bituminous shale,<sup>36</sup> these being thrown

28. Foster.

29. Dillard. Le Sieur.

30. Bradbury.

31. McBride. Linn. Pierce.

32. Bryan. Le Sieur.

33. Le Sieur.

34. Bryan. Bradbury. Flint.

35. Le Sieur. Linn. Walker. Brounm. Flint.

36. Linn. Lyell. Bryan. Brounm. Dillard. Flint. Col. Shaw said a hard, jet black substance, smooth as if worn by friction, and different from anthracite or bituminous coal.

to a considerable height, the extreme statements being forty feet,<sup>37</sup> and to the tops of the trees.<sup>38</sup>

More than one account says that the water that was thrown up was lukewarm—so warm that in swimming or wading through it there were no chilly sensations.<sup>39</sup>

With the explosions and bursting of the ground there were flashes, such as result from the explosion of gas, or from the passage of the electric fluid from one cloud to another, but no burning flame;<sup>40</sup> there were also sulphureted gases, which made the water unfit for use,<sup>41</sup> and darkened the heavens,<sup>42</sup> giving some the impression of its being steam,<sup>43</sup> and so dense that no sunbeam could find its way through. With the bursting of the waves large fissures were formed,<sup>44</sup> some of which closed again immediately;<sup>45</sup> while others were of various widths, as much as thirty feet, and of various lengths.<sup>46</sup> These fissures were generally parallel to each other nearly north and south, but not all.<sup>47</sup>

In some cases instead of fissures extending for a considerable distance there were circular chasms, from five to thirty feet in diameter, around which were left

37. Dillard.

38. Flint. Brounm. Le Sieur said six to ten feet. Pierce who was on the river says that the spouting from the river of water, mud, and sticks was thrown at least thirty feet high, and in places appeared "to rise to the very heavens." Large tree trunks were also thrown up from the river.

39. Le Sieur.

40. Dillard.

41. Bryan.

42. Bryan. Brounm.

43. Linn.

44. Dillard. Le Sieur. Walker. Pierce.

45. Bryan.

46. Dillard. Lyell. Le Sieur says running north and south parallel for miles—that he had seen them four or five miles long, four and one-half feet deep and ten feet wide.

47. Lyell says some were ten to forty-five degrees west of north.

sand and bituminous shale, which latter would burn with a disagreeable sulphurous smell.<sup>48</sup> Lyell mentions that the sand and lignite surrounding these cavities would not be enough to one-tenth fill them.

Lyell saw "the sink hole where the negro was drowned." It was in a flat plain, with steep sides, and twenty-eight feet from the top to the water in it. Lyell was told that some of them had been "deep as wells," and Flint saw a hundred chasms that remained fearfully deep.

In cases where the explosion occurred under trees it was sufficient to split them through the center, even to forty feet high, and Foster at the time of his visit found such trees still standing, one part of the tree on one side of the fissure and the other on the other side.<sup>49</sup>

Dillard's grandparents had obtained a boat load of iron castings which had been stored in a cellar. During one of the shocks the ground opened under the house, and the castings were swallowed up so that no trace of them was afterwards found.<sup>50</sup>

The changes in elevation produced by the earthquake were very great, and extended for many miles. Before the earthquake New Madrid was fifteen or twenty feet above the summer floods, but it sank fifteen feet;<sup>51</sup> a half mile below the town the banks of the river were not disturbed; and the beds of some of the lakes back from the river were elevated ten to twenty feet.<sup>52</sup>

The Indians claimed that Seneca Creek, Kinamore Slough, Honey Cypress, Buffalo Creek, Raglin and Taylor Sloughs, which all run about the same direction, northwesterly and southwesterly, were originally large fissures

48. McBride. Lyell. Pierce.

49. Foster. McBride.

50. Foster.

51. Bryan. Dunklin. Brounm.

52. Le Sieur. Rozier. Shaw says five or six feet.

and parallel with the smaller fissures of the earthquake.<sup>53</sup>

Lyell found the "sunk country" covered with trees standing but dead, many of them two hundred years old, and evidently killed by the loosening of the roots during the horizontal and continued undulatory motion of the ground. The descent into this sunk country he found in places to be as such as twenty to thirty feet. At Little Prairie these dead trees were standing in water.

He visited the former Lake Eulalie, accompanied by Mr. W. Hunter, its owner. It had been three hundred yards long and one hundred wide, of clear water and well stocked with fish. It was then covered with trees, all of different species from those on ground twelve or fifteen feet higher. The trees in the site of the former lake were less than thirty-four years old. He found two paralleled fissures about eight yards apart by which the water had suddenly escaped. He does not say whether the bed of the lake had been elevated, but if not it is not shown why it did not again fill with water. Lyell says that the sunk country extended seventy to eighty miles north and south and thirty east and west.

When Foster visited the neighborhood he found large trees of walnut, white oak and mulberry which had been on high ground but were then submerged ten and twenty feet beneath the water, and cypress so far under water that he had paddled among the branches. At other places the subsidence had been so great that the tops of trees just appeared above the surface,<sup>54</sup> or as at Reel Foot lake were entirely below the surface.

Before the earthquake keel boats came up the St. Francis river, and again into the Mississippi river three

53. Broun.

54. McBride.

miles below New Madrid, but this bayou was elevated so that it was dry.<sup>55</sup>

The most notable of the new lakes formed by the earth-quake was Reel Foot lake across the river in Tennessee. This is sixty to seventy miles long, and three to twenty wide.<sup>56</sup> In some parts it is very shallow, and in others, fifty to one hundred feet deep. Lofty forest trees sank down with the forming of the lake, and "disappeared in a sea that was broader and deeper than that of Gallilee." Long afterwards the trees were to be seen still standing, branchless and almost or entirely covered with water.<sup>57</sup> The water of the lake is not the same as in the Mississippi, but is clear as mountain water and not the yellow muddy water of the river.

Le Sieur, writing in 1871, says the shocks had continued from 1811 to that time, less and less each year and none violent enough to produce any change of surface.

All accounts agree that for a time the waters of the Mississippi "flowed up stream,"<sup>58</sup> caused by an elevation of the bed of the river and extending across it, so that the water rose to a considerable height. Many boats were forced into a creek above New Madrid, and when the mass of the waters finally tore away the obstruction, some of the boats were stranded, and others shot down the river with great velocity. A few days action of the powerful current was sufficient to wear away every vestige of the barrier.

No more startling change of scenery could well be imagined than that at old man Culberson's, who lived with his family in a bend of the Pemiscot river, ten miles

55. Foster.

56. Brounm.

57. Linn.

58. Lyell. Flint. Linn. Miss Bryan says for a few minutes.

below Little Prairie. There was about "an acre of ground" between his house and the river, and on it was his smoke house and well. On the morning of the 16th, Mrs. Culberson went out to get some meat from the smoke house, but no well or smoke house was to be seen. Upon search they were both found to be on the other side of the river. A fissure across the bend had been so large that the river flowed through it, and the great pressure on the isolated spot forced it to the opposite side of the river when the next earthwave occurred.<sup>59</sup>

The St. Louis Globe Democrat of March, 1902 has an account of the disappearance of Island No. 94, taken from the papers of the late Aug. Warner. The island was not far from Vicksburg. Capt. Sarpy of St. Louis with his family and considerable money tied up at this island on the evening of December 15, 1811, but finding that a band of river pirates were waiting to rob him, he quietly dropped further down the river. The next morning he found the island had disappeared and the robbers had been swallowed up.

Numerous instances are given of the terror being so great that persons did not know what to do, but Wetmore tells of the Frenchman who did not allow himself to be overcome by what was surrounding him. When Mr. Walker, feeling the ground rock under his feet, saw tall trees waving like spars of a ship on a stormy ocean, he sank to his knees in prayer for safety; but the Frenchman who was with him exclaimed, "Monsieur Valkare, no time to pray! Sacre Dieu! gardez-vous les branch," and the falling branches of the trees adding effect to the exhortations, they made flight to the nearest prairie.

Miss Bryan wrote in 1816 that formerly they had been subject to very hard thunder storms, but for a year

59. Southeast Missouri.

before the earthquake there had been none, and very little afterwards, and what there was resembled subterranean thunder.

In less than three months the people returned to their homes, and they became so accustomed to the shocks "that they paid little or no regard to them, not even interrupting or checking their dances, frolics and vices."

In 1820 passengers went ashore from a steamer at New Madrid and feeling a house shake were frightened. The lady of the house said, "Don't be alarmed, it is nothing but an earthquake."

The persons who experienced the shocks generally did not theorize as to the cause, but Bradbury found a man near the Lower Chickasaw Bluffs who gave his theory. It was that a comet which had occurred a few months before had two horns, over one of which the earth had rolled, and was then lodged between them. The shocks were occasioned by the attempts to surmount the other horn. If this should be accomplished all would be well; otherwise inevitable destruction of the world would follow.

Bringier thought the cause was not volcanic, but was perhaps electricity. He thought the country was partly overlaid with driftwood at some distance below the surface; that this driftwood had become highly carbonized and reduced to a smaller compass, so that when the ground was disturbed by the shocks it sank down.

James Mac Farlane of Towanda, Pennsylvania, presented a paper to the American Association for the advancement of Science holding "the Earthquake at New Madrid in 1811, probably not an earthquake."<sup>60</sup> His argument was that the locality does not show any indi-

60. *Proceedings*, 32d meeting 1883, p. —. Same with discussion, *Science*, Sept. 7, 1883.

cations of volcanic action, and he thought the disturbance was from subsidence, due to solution of underlying strata. His evidence was the long continuance from 1811 to 1813; the progression from place to place, ending nearly one hundred miles from the place of beginning; that they were never repeated in the same place; that none of the ordinary phenomena of earthquakes occurred, except subsidence; that no great alluvial region like this has ever been visited by an earthquake; that earthquakes do not occur so far from sea shore; that the falling of the Wade farm of 500 acres on the shore of Reel Foot lake, in January, 1883, was a continuance on a small scale of the supposed earthquake of 1811-1812. New Madrid and vicinity rested on tertiary or quaternary strata, and the subcarboniferous strata are on the borders of the depression, and older formations which were soluble were the underlying strata.

In the discussion Prof. Cox declared there was no subcarboniferous in the vicinity, no caverns, no soluble limestone. The shocks were sudden. He had personally visited the locality, and found evidences of very great disturbances. Prof. Nipher suggested that the position of the trees, whether upright or not would help to determine. Some doubts were expressed whether there were any submerged trees, but Prof. Cox said he had seen the trees still upright in the water.

Prof. Marbut<sup>61</sup> seeks to give a geological account of the swamp region or low lands of Southeast Missouri, and this he does with only a slight reference to the earthquakes,—“the earthquake shocks of 1811 and 1812. A large part of the area is supposed to have sunk at that time, though the amount of the sinking has not been agreed upon. The relative effect of these two forces

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61. Bibliography No. 13.

has never been clearly determined by even the most strenuous advocates of the earthquake's effectiveness."

The most satisfactory explanation of the results that were produced by the earthquake, that I have seen, is that by Prof. E. M. Shepard, of Drury College, Springfield, Missouri. While employed with the United States Geological Survey, he visited the region of the earthquake several times in 1904, for the work in which he was then engaged, that of the study of artesian waters. He found still apparent the effects of the earthquake, the fault scarps where the ground had sunk down, the trees standing in Reel Foot lake with the tops below the surface of the water, and submerged trees at other places; the areas where the land had sunk down, the trees killed, the depression partly filled with flood deposits, and then covered with a new vegetation different from the old; and great quantities of sand in places making the land barren, the sand found along the cracks and fault scarps, and in "sand blows" or low mounds of fine white sand mixed with lignite. He shows the geology of that part of the country, and that the Mississippi Valley forms a strong artesian basin from the Tennessee Mountains to the Ozarks; that beneath the loess of the surface there are six to forty feet of gravel, followed by a layer of impervious blue clay, from 100 to 225 feet, then ten to forty feet of orange sand, and under it the silicious Claiborne or artesian sand 600 to 800 feet and various other layers below, the subcarboniferous being 1300 to 2000 feet below the surface. At Memphis and at other points in a circle on the border of the sunken district there are flowing wells. In these and in all the springs of the sunken area great quantities of fine sand are brought to the surface. This produces an undermining of the blue clay layer and finally a readjustment of the strata is affected. His conclusion is that whatever

may have been the primary cause of the earthquake, the great local disturbance at New Madrid came from the artesian pressure from below undermining the superincumbent beds of clay, and that a slight earthquake wave would destroy the equilibrium of the region, resulting in the sinking of some areas and the elevation of others.

The writer has not had opportunity to get data of other earthquakes in Missouri, except of the two that follow:

#### EARTHQUAKE OF OCTOBER 7, 1857.

What seems to have been the most severe earthquake since 1811-12, occurred at St. Louis and other places in the Mississippi valley, October 8, 1857.<sup>62</sup> There were two shocks, the first about 4:15 A. M. and the other a few minutes later. Windows rattled, articles fell from mantels, the largest buildings were rocked to and fro, the river was in tumult, and animals were frightened. There was a great rumbling like the passage of a heavy vehicle over pavements, houses with walls even eighteen inches thick were violently affected, the motion being horizontal the vibration being from east to west.

Some reports stated that the shocks were accompanied by a heavy mist or fog, but a dispatch from a place on the river below showed that the fog began there about eleven o'clock. At St. Louis the northern sky was clear, but the mist soon overspread the skies.

Dispatches from other points showed that the shocks were felt at many places in Illinois, and along the Mississippi river from Hannibal south, but at Hermann and Jefferson City there were no shocks felt. Accounts differed as to the direction from which the shocks came,

62. Missouri Republican, Oct. 9, 1857. Missouri Democrat, Oct. 9, 10, 12.

but the Democrat reporter thought that the weight of evidence was that they came from the south.

The Belcher well which was then 2265 feet deep was not affected.

One person reported that he had seen a meteor as large as a full moon that shot across the sky south to north and exploded with a loud noise, and one in Illinois said there was vivid lightning and loud thunder; but as these things were not mentioned by any other person there may be some doubt about them.

#### EARTHQUAKE OF OCTOBER 31, 1895.

This was said to be the hardest shock since that of 1812. It was felt in seventeen states, and was most violent in a line extending south of the State of Ohio. Near Henson lake, six miles south of Charleston, Missouri, about four acres of ground were sunk and filled with water, forming another lake. Near Bertrand hundreds of mounds of sand were piled up, ranging from twelve inches to ten feet in circumference, and the ditches in this neighborhood were filled with water, coming from the holes made, there having been no rain to fill them in any other way for nearly two months. Near Big lake, four miles north of Charleston were two small holes in the earth from which the water spouted to the height of three feet. In Dunklin county shocks were much lighter. It lasted three minutes from northeast to southwest, but no damage was done.<sup>63</sup>

F. A. SAMPSON.

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63. *St. Louis Republic*, Nov. 2, 1895. History of Dunklin County by Mary F. Smyth-Davis, p. 18.

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## LIFE AND INFLUENCE OF DANVILLE AND DANVILLE TOWNSHIP.

BY OLIVE BAKER.

(Paper read by Olive Baker before the Montgomery County Club of St. Louis, Mo., November 11, 1912.)

As a native of Danville Township and a daughter of one of the pioneer families of Danville, it is my purpose to give as briefly as possible something of the history, character, and influence of Danville township of Montgomery County and the State of Missouri; also to call attention to the efforts of its present sons and daughters to reflect their heritage and contribute their share to the progress and uplift of civilization.

The living authorities whom I quote are: W. D. Bush,<sup>1</sup> Mrs. B. F. Sharp, and Mrs. A. O. Forshey,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin R. Graham,<sup>3</sup> D. D. Baker and S. M. Baker,<sup>4</sup> Mr. and Mrs. Jas. R. Hance.

I have collected much information from Beck's Gazetteer of 1823, Wetmore's Gazetteer of 1837, legal documents in the hands of the heirs of S. M. Baker (see appendix), History of St. Charles, Montgomery, and Warren Counties, inscriptions taken from tombstones in Danville township, Campbell's Gazetteer of 1874, Resources of the State of Missouri by John J. O'Neill, 1877.

In order that I may give Danville township its proper perspective it is necessary for me to include a brief sketch of the antecedent history of the county.

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1. Mr. Bush lived in Danville, 1848-1882.
2. Nee Miss Mary McGhee and Miss Harriet McGhee. Both were intimately associated with the life of Danville, 1839-1856.
3. Great-grandson of Robert Graham.
4. Sons of the late S. M. Baker. D. D. Baker still resides on the old homestead near Danville, and S. M. Baker owns and resides on a farm west of Danville, which was originally owned by Drury Clanton and Maj. Isaac Van Bibber.

Montgomery county was organized from a portion of the western part of the St. Charles District, December 14, 1818. The new county was named in honor of Gen. Richard Montgomery who fell at Quebec. Some authorities claim it was named for Montgomery county, Kentucky, from whence came many of the pioneer families of the county, but accepted authority decides the name was intended to honor Gen. Montgomery.

"In 1818, the people of this territory petitioned Congress for authority to form a state government. A bill was accordingly introduced during the session 1818-1819 and contained among other provisions that of prohibiting slavery or involuntary servitude. It passed the House of Representatives but was rejected by the Senate, and of course failed of success. The ensuing session the bill was again brought up, and, after a succession of animated and interesting debates continued through several weeks, a compromise or agreement was entered into by the advocates and opposers of the 'restriction.' The result was, that slavery should be tolerated in Missouri but in no other part of Louisiana as ceded by France to the United States, north of  $36^{\circ} 30'$  of north latitude. Accordingly, the people of this territory were authorized to form a constitution, under which, when approved by Congress, Missouri should be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original states.

The convention being duly elected met at St. Louis on the 12th of June, 1820, and formed a constitution, which was laid before Congress early in the session of 1820-1821." There were forty-one members present at this convention, two of whom were from Montgomery County, Jonathan Ramsey and James Talbot. Nathan Boone from St. Charles County, Edward Bates and David Barton from St. Louis County were present as representatives from their counties. I note this fact as their

names are of special interest in the affairs of Danville township.

"On the 2d of March, 1821, the following resolution was passed by a majority of both houses of Congress:

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that Missouri shall be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original states."

President Monroe announced by proclamation the admission of Missouri into the Union August 10, 1821.

Danville township was surveyed in about 1818. Previous to January 17, 1872, there were but five townships in Montgomery county. At this date, the county court divided the county into six townships. Montgomery township was created out of the northern part of Danville township. Even so, Danville township at present is the largest municipal township in Montgomery County. It is twelve miles in length and nine miles in width. Both Minneola and New Florence are in Danville township.

We have now organized the county, formally admitted the state into the Union, and created what will be later known as Danville township. I shall proceed to journey toward Danville township via our most noted thoroughfare, well known to every Missourian, the Boone's Lick Road. This road is supposed to have been surveyed through Montgomery county in 1820. Until this time a rough, irregular trail had been used by the pioneers. The following residents of Danville township were among those who worked on the new road near Loutre Lick: "Robert Graham, Maj. Isaac VanBibber, 'Fauncey' Boone, Thos. and Jerry Smith, Thos. Hicker-son, James Beatty, David Craig and Tarlton Gore (cousin of Capt. Callaway)." As soon as the Boone's Lick Road was open for travel a stage line from St. Louis to Fort Osage, a distance of 276 miles, was established. Loutre

Lick was the seventh station on this line. The regular hour when the stage was to pass through the station was eagerly awaited. The stage not only brought the news from all along the line, but distinguished visitors, as well, were dependent upon this mode of travel.

"The first Fourth of July celebration in Montgomery county was held at Loutre Lick, July 4, 1821, when Missouri was practically and rightfully of the American Union. Great preparations had been made for the event. Major Van Bibber labored hard to make everything a success. He procured an abundant supply of provisions, including several gallons of whiskey.

"There was a large crowd present. Many came from Pinckney and Loutre Island, and all of the upper country turned out. The stage from St. Louis brought up the speakers, who were Edward Bates, Elias Rector, and other notables. Numbers were present from St. Charles county. Speeches were made by some of the most noted men in the history of Missouri, amid enthusiasm. Toasts were responded to by Edward Bates, David Barton and others. At night there was a big dance in Maj. Van Bibber's new house, which, though unfinished at the time, had plenty of room and a big floor, so that nearly a dozen couples could dance at once." Edward Bates was Chairman of the Convention held in St. Louis, June 12, 1829.

Hampton Ball is said to have been one of the first stage drivers from St. Charles to Fulton. James L. Pegram was well known and a favorite driver on this route. One of the most trusted drivers from Fulton to St. Charles was William Kerr, who made his home in Danville. Long after the North Missouri Railroad had taken the place of the old stage line his two sons, John and William, resided in Danville and drove the daily hack which carried the mail from Danville to Montgom-

ery City, the railroad station. This hack line still makes a daily trip from Minneola, via Danville, to Montgomery City,

I shall now introduce a few of the pioneer settlers of Danville township whose names are to be so intimately associated with the growth, influence, and prestige of the town, Danville, I feel I cannot further neglect identifying them.

It was about 1800 when the Spanish government granted to Col. Nathan Boone 460 acres of land in the western part of what was later to be named Danville township. Col. Massey rented part of this land from Col. Nathan Boone in 1813. He made a clearing on what is now known as Sallee's Branch, built a log cabin and is believed to have been the first real white settler in Danville township. Mr. Massey was so terrified by the killing of his son, Harris, by the Indians in the following spring, he left his new home. The site of his residence is now occupied by the Van Bibber-Mahanes house. Mr. Massey and his wife died about 1820-1821 at their son-in-law's, Hugh Logan, on Bear Creek and were buried at Loutre Lick about half a mile from Sallee's Branch. Mrs. Patton, a daughter, was living near Loutre Island in 1885.

Col. Nathan Boone sold the land described to Maj. Isaac Van Bibber, who settled here in 1821. In 1822 he built the now famous "Van Bibber Tavern." This building was originally a "story-and-a-half" with two board porches running the entire length of the house. One porch stretched across the front and the other across the back of the house. These porches and the house were covered with clapboards. The building was weather-boarded with split boards and instead of being joined at the eaves as is the custom of to-day, the end of each board was cut with a bevel so that the ends lapped one

over the other. The old house remained practically unchanged until 1880, when a gentleman from Ohio by the name of Chas. Mahanes purchased the house and a small tract of land surrounding it. Mr. Mahanes started to remodel this old tavern into a modern hotel, and after tearing this old relic to pieces, he gave up the idea and left it in the unfinished condition we find it today. The first dancing school in Danville township was conducted in the "East Room" of this old tavern and was taught by the school teacher. Major Van Bibber also owned the tract of land that lies west of Minneola and opened up a clearing over in the bottom. This clearing became noted for two reasons: First—as a protection to the growing crops from the ravages of deer, Major Van Bibber built a fence around it by placing rails side by side on end in the same manner that stockades were built by the first settlers; Second—Major Van Bibber procured two turning plows and they were tried first in this clearing. They are said to be the first turning plows ever used in Montgomery county. The neighbors gathered in and pronounced the new plows a wonderful improvement. A level, or straight-edge, bearing the name of Major Van Bibber and date 1821, is in possession of Benj. R. Graham. He received it as a souvenir and relic from Mr. Mahanes, who found it in the Van Bibber house.

Robert Graham, the founder of "Graham Home," came from Kentucky in 1815, and camped on "The Point," near St. Charles. With the opening of spring he again took up "the Trail to Sunset." Upon arriving at Loutre Lick he was attracted by the abundance of fish and game and decided to stop here. He purchased a Spanish Grant from Daniel M. Boone and built a log cabin about one mile north of the present town of Minneola. He cleared about two acres of land and planted it in corn during the summer of 1816. After living in

this cabin for about ten years he built a frame house near by. In the construction of this house, the framing was hewn and the other lumber was sawed with a whipsaw. This house has been the home of a Graham family continuously to the present time. In it there is an old fireplace around whose hearth has gathered at different times five generations of the Graham family. Benj. R. Graham, the great-grandson of Robert Graham, owns and resides today on this old homestead.

Sylvester Baker came from Virginia in 1818 and settled in Danville township on Loutre Creek near Prairie Fork. His brother, Captain John Baker, came to Montgomery county in 1820. The brothers built a water-mill which was the first of its kind in this section. It was patronized by people from the adjoining counties, as well as from Montgomery county. The millstones from this mill were used for part of the corner stones of a small house erected in the yard of Robert Graham wherein his grandson, the late D. F. Graham, kept a large and valuable collection of Indian relics. Mr. Graham had gathered the greater part of his collection from Danville township. Benj. R. Graham has placed this collection, the fruits of the efforts of his father's lifetime, in the hands of the University of Missouri. It is known as the "Graham Collection."

A few years later Sylvester Baker sold his farm near Prairie Fork to Captain John Baker, and took up the land now known as the Clark farm. Sylvester Baker was a trained millwright and built on his farm a horse-mill. It was the first horse-mill in Montgomery county. The farm which was bought by Captain John Baker when he first came to Missouri is owned, at present, by his grandson, R. W. Baker, who resides there. It was on this farm that Capt. James Callaway, grandson of

Daniel Boone, was killed by the Indians, March 7, 1815.<sup>5</sup>

Daniel Morgan Boone settled near Robert Graham in 1819. He held several important positions under the government and made many important surveys. His father, the noted Daniel Boone, often visited the son at Loutre Lick. He was inclined to believe the medicinal springs there were specially beneficial to him.

Richard Fitzhugh came from Tennessee in 1818. He settled on the east side of Loutre, south of Danville. He and his son Hopkins were noted whip-sawyers and when Danville was being built (1834-1835) they furnished a great deal of the lumber for the town.

Col. David Craig came to Danville township in 1817, and lived for a few years with Major Van Bibber. He had served as a soldier in the War of 1812 and later served under Colonel Nathan Boone during the Black Hawk War. He was elected colonel of the militia in 1834.

Thomas and Nathaniel Dryden settled three miles east of where the town of Danville is now located on the Boone's Lick Road in 1822. They built a horse-mill which had a capacity for grinding from three to five bushels per day.

Drury and Henry Clanton settled a short distance southwest of Danville in 1818 on what is called "Pinch Branch." Drury Clanton was a Methodist minister. It was at his home the first Methodist congregation in Montgomery county was organized by himself and Rev. Robert Baker in 1819. A Sunday-school was also organized at the same time and place. The first camp-meeting in Montgomery county was held on this farm. It was called "Loutre Camp Ground." The arbor was in a beautiful grove and nearby excellent water was furnished

5. See Dr. Maugh's account in Wetmore's Gazetteer of Missouri, 1837.

from a spring. The benches were split logs supported by pegs for legs. The services were attended by people from the whole county who were anxious to hear the eloquent speakers.

Olly Williams settled about 1820 on the east edge of where the town of Danville was later built. Sylvester Baker helped him build a spinning mill which was the first of its kind west of St. Charles. He also had a brick tavern built by Conrad Carpenter who afterward bought the property from Olly Williams and continued to keep the tavern. This brick building has been used as a tavern or hotel successively by Olly Williams, Conrad Carpenter, Col. Robert Fulkerson, Samuel H. Wheeler, and Charles Woodruff. It is in good repair at present and is the dwelling of Mrs. Hubbard, who bought the place from Charles Woodruff.

In 1820, about two years after the organization of Montgomery county, James Powell settled on the present site of Danville. He built a horse-mill and tilled the farm which he cleared west of his residence. James Powell died at this home in 1828 before the town of Danville was ever laid off. The original house built by Mr. Powell is still standing in Danville. His widow lived here until late in the '60s. She was cordial and hospitable. The young ladies from Danville Female Academy were favorite friends of Mrs. Powell. They enjoyed visiting in her home and were frequently served with luscious fruit and old-fashioned flowers, grown by Mrs. Powell in her home garden.

Mrs. Powell was quick of wit and original in her views. Dr. W. E. Worthington, a respected and rising physician, had been treating Mrs. Powell for some time. One day she announced she felt much better and asked the doctor for a settlement. He stated how many visits had been made and the medicine prescribed. Pointing

to a shelf the patient said, "There is your medicine. I have not taken one drop of it. I will return your visits as soon as I am stronger."

I should like to name more of these early pioneers of Danville township, if time would permit. I refer to such men as James Beatty, James Davis, Jabez Ham, William Ford, Alexander W. Graham, Benjamin White, William Knox, Ambrose Bush, Peter Davault, and Burrell Adams.

Before dismissing the subject of the pioneer work of the first settlers, I will give some consideration to the history of the various officers who controlled so judiciously the public affairs of Danville township.

The first courts, circuit and county, of Montgomery county, were held in a log cabin built in the dooryard of Major Ben Sharp. Three miles from this cabin the first county seat was located. The town was called Pinckney for the fair daughter of Major Ben. Sharp. Later the county seat was moved to Lewiston near the site where High Hill was built. The first three county judges were appointed before Missouri had been admitted as a state. They were Isaac Clark, Moses Summers, and John Wyatt. At the first meeting Mr. Clark resigned and Major Ben. Sharp was appointed to fill the vacancy. John C. Long was appointed the first circuit and county clerk by Governor McNair. Before assuming his duties, Mr. Long sold these offices to Jacob L. Sharp, son of Major Ben. Sharp, for \$100. Jacob L. Sharp continued to hold these offices, by choice of the people, until the election of 1865. His son, Samuel T. Sharp, succeeded him at this time. Jacob L. Sharp and his son served Montgomery county continuously as county and circuit clerk for more than one half century. When Jacob L. Sharp came to live in the town of Danville he moved the log cabin from his father's yard wherein the first

courts of the county were held and placed it in his own yard. This log house still stands in the yard now owned by Dr. W. W. Daniels of Danville.

In 1833, a portion of the south-eastern part of Montgomery county was set aside as Warren county. It was decided to move the county seat of Montgomery county to a more central and convenient location. The site for the new county seat, Danville, was donated by Henry Davault and Conrad Carpenter in the early part of 1834. Judge Olly Williams laid off the new town. At the suggestion of Colonel Chas. P. Harper it was called Danville for Danville, Va., from whence he came. Mr. William Knox was appointed commissioner to sell the lots. They were sold at auction, June 23, 1834, and the money realized from the sale was used toward building a brick court house. This building was used as the county court house from 1836 to 1864. Thus Danville was created the county seat of Montgomery county in 1834 and has remained the capital of the county to the present date. From the time this influential old town was founded it has held a conspicuous and worthy position in the mercantile, educational, and professional life of the county.

The first store in Danville was opened by Charles Drury in 1834. He came from Loutre Lick, where he had owned for years one of the two stores then in Montgomery county. His daughter, Susan B., was the first child born in Danville. She lived within one-half mile of her native town her entire life. She became the wife of the noted and honored Dr. W. B. Adams.

Dr. M. M. Maughs and Captain John Baker also built homes in Danville about this time. Dr. Maughs practiced medicine and incidentally contributed articles to the periodicals of the day. Captain John Baker and his brother Sylvester opened a store. W. D. Bush says of this store, "They kept for sale everything a farmer

would want in those days. They were on intimate terms with everyone, exerting a wonderful influence, for it was here the farmers came for the news of the day as well as to buy goods." Mrs. Scholl, daughter of Dr. M. M. Maughs, relates the following incident which will illustrate this period in the life of Danville: "Dr. Maughs, who took one of the two copies of the St. Louis paper that came to Danville, was the public reader. After the crowd gathered around the stove, he began to read some political news with the comment, 'that's a lie,' after reading two items in succession. One of his hearers stopped him and said, 'Dr. Maughs, I know people sometimes tell lies, but do you think they would print one?'" For years the Drury and Baker stores were the leading stores of the county. The goods were brought from St. Louis via the Boone's Lick Road in wagons drawn by oxen. Sometimes they were shipped up the river to Hermann, Mo., and brought from there in oxen wagons.

As years passed on, we have the names of Joseph P. Wiseman, A. C. Stewart (afterward appointed Collector of Revenue by President Grant in 1868), J. H. Robinson, W. D. Bush, Sylvester Marion Baker, Clay and Web Baker, Thomas Stevens, Amos Lawhorn, John Harris, and Samuel Wheeler, associated with the prosperous mercantile life of Danville.

Thomas Stevens went from Danville to build and open the first store in Montgomery City. It occupied the site where the Worley & Miller store stands today. He was one of the three commissioners chosen at the first election to serve the new town. He was the first depot agent in Montgomery City. It was Thomas Stevens who tactfully and bravely treated with Captain Myers when he charged upon the town, threatening to burn the station and destroy the railroad track. The only evidence of the interview was a dismembered joint of stove-

pipe. As Mr. Stevens argued with Captain Myers, an impatient soldier sought to settle the argument with a sabre cut but missed his aim. Web Baker went from Danville to build and open the first store in Jonesburg.

In 1837 Jacob See came to Danville. He kept a tavern for thirteen years and became a prominent member and officer of the Evanix Society. The tavern was built by his brother, Noah See, who came to Danville in 1838 and was an excellent carpenter. Later Jacob See became interested in raising fine stock and the tavern was run by his son-in-law, Granville Nunnelly.

The following description of Danville is taken from Wetmore's *Gazetteer* of 1873:

"Danville, the present county seat, was laid out about three years ago. It is pleasantly and advantageously situated on the Boon's Lick Road, in Loutre Prairie, and is a thriving village, having a handsome new brick court house, a jail, several stores, groceries and mercantile establishments."

It is interesting to know the home built by Charles Drury in 1835 has recently changed hands for a consideration of \$800. The home of Dr. M. M. Maughs is in use and in good repair. The residence of Jacob L. Sharp is in excellent condition and is the home of Dr. W. W. Daniels. The home of his son, Dr. B. F. Sharp, is still occupied. The tavern built for Jacob See (later called the Arnold Hotel), is used as a residence. The home built by Sylvester Marion Baker is now owned by Shelor Powell who conducts a hotel. The Olly Williams tavern, built long before 1834, is in splendid condition.

When I try to consider the work of the schools of Danville, I feel it would be impossible to do them justice even though I devoted the entire paper to this phase of the life of the town.

William Wright settled on a farm about one-half mile east of Danville on the Boone's Lick Road in 1826. He built a little school house in the yard west of his dwelling. He kept a tavern and boarded the students who attended the school. His sister, Miss Isabelle Wright, taught the school.

William Wright sold his place to the pioneer Methodist minister, Rev. Andrew Monroe, in 1833. He continued to conduct a very select boarding school known as "Prairie Lawn Seminary." Mrs. Mary Scholl, daughter of Dr. M. M. Maughs, is living and attended both "Prairie Lawn Seminary" and the McGhee School which was opened in the town of Danville in 1841. Mrs. Scholl says the first teacher in the seminary was Miss Mary Phane, from Boston, who taught her all the manners she ever knew. The two Misses Spencer from St. Charles, Mo., succeeded Miss Phane and later Miss Smith taught in 1838. In 1839 Miss Mary McGhee came from Shelbyville, Kentucky, and took charge of the school for Reverend Monroe.

The "Prairie Lawn Seminary" was destroyed by a cyclone.

Mrs. Scholl, who was Mary Maughs, and Mary Monroe were candle-bearers for Miss Mary McGhee when she married Dr. B. F. Sharp. They carried very tall candles and led the wedding procession, an old custom which was both quaint and beautiful. Dr. Sharp gave his bride the first piano in the county. People came from far and near to see the instrument and enjoy the music.

Rev. Andrew Monroe sold his place to Sylvester Marion Baker in 1850. In 1853 Mr. Baker completed his brick residence which was built on the site of "Prairie Lawn Seminary." The place is still in possession of his heirs. One room of the old Wright-Monroe dwelling was still standing in the yard east of the Baker home

until one year ago, when it was torn down by D. D. Baker who wished to build a barn on that site.

In 1841 Miss Harriet McGhee came to Danville and organized the McGhee School for young ladies. Miss McGhee taught in this school for seven years. The brick building used for this school stood near the old brick church which is in use in Danville today. The McGhee school was attended by young ladies from the best families at a distance as well as near Danville. Among those whose names are recalled are: Fannie Maughs (Mrs. James), Mary Maughs (Mrs. Scholl), Lou Scholl, Frances Anna Stevens (Mrs. S. M. Baker, mother of the writer), and Virginia Stevens (Mrs. S. C. Baker).

At the same time, Mr. Elliot Hughes, Sr., was teaching a school for boys on the south side of the town. The site on which this school was built had been donated by Sylvester Baker. He evidently believed the boys must be educated as well as the girls. The colored school building is built on this site at the present time.

James H. Robinson opened a private school for boys in part of the court house in 1848. W. D. Bush attended this school. The noted and revered Methodist minister, Reverend Carr Waller Pritchett, succeeded Mr. Robinson at the male school, continuing several years. Mr. Pritchett later assisted in organizing Pritchett College at Glasgow, Mo., which is noted for its high standard in scholarship. Among the prominent men who attended Pritchett School in Danville were Judge Sam Edwards, Ira and Joe Pritchett from Warren county, Jeff Forgey from Pike, Dr. John Davis, Judge Walter Lovelace from Montgomery, and Dr. John French. Both the Pritchett and McGhee schools were considered the best in this part of the state.

James H. Robinson established the Danville Female Academy and erected the group of school buildings in

1856-1857. This was a very successful and good school attended by daughters of prominent families from all parts of Missouri as well as other states. The instructors in the academic work were Professors James H. Robinson, —— Watts, —— Carter, Mme. Predeau, Miss Olga Faderoe, Miss Burgess, and Miss Eliza Draper (sister of General Dan. M. Draper). In the music department the instructors were Professors Herz, Jhoran, Gensert, Johns, and Miss Lou Bevett. Among those attending were two daughters of Bishop E. M. Marvin, Miss Kate Wright (who became Mrs. Norman J. Coleman), Carrie Sharp (Mrs. Griffith of Minneapolis), Jennie North (Mrs. Jackson of Kansas City), Alice Jones of Bastrop, Louisiana, Missouri Bond (Mrs. Robert McIlhaney), Pope Bond, Lucy Wiseman (Mrs. Charles Stewart), Eliza Robinson, Emma Davault, Lou Davault (Mrs. Charles Bast), Katé Baker (Mrs. Joe Allen), Bettie Baker (Mrs. W. B. Anderson), Lucy Witcher (Mrs. Tom Dunn), Tony Cordell (Mrs. Armstrong), Margaret Baker, Jennie Baker, Elsie Baker, Maggie Pegram (Mrs. Ben Blades of Oberland, Missouri), Annie Forshey, Mary Palmer, Kate McNeiley (Mrs. S. M. Moore), Jane Dutton, Prue Pegram, Ann Drace (Mrs. Archibald White), Fannie W. White (Mrs. W. L. Gatewood), Sallie Grump (Mrs. Jack Garrett), Mary Dyson, Alice Dyson, Emma Owings (Mrs. W. B. Bush), Ella Brizandine, the Robinson girls and the Overall girls.

Professor Carter, who taught in the school, married Eliza Overall. He was an eastern man, a fine scholar and teacher, and a staunch friend to the Union. Upon one occasion, when a large flag he had erected was about to be cut down, he made an eloquent speech in favor of the Union. Among other forces contributing to make Danville Union in sentiment was the strong influence of Dr. W. B. Adams and Walter Lovelace. In fact, most

all the prominent citizens of the vicinity used their influence for this cause. When Bill Anderson and his forces threatened to burn this school, the young ladies called the officers and by using the utmost persuasion succeeded in preventing its being burned.

A common practice in schools at that time was to have all examinations public. After this came the closing exercises which consisted of dialogues, compositions, and speeches by the pupils. The friends and patrons were next called upon to speak. Upon one occasion a young lady had a well written essay on some subject far in advance of her day, probably pertaining to woman's rights. After hearing her essay, a man undertook in his speech to show her arguments were unsound, when a brilliant young man just from school jumped to his feet and made the welkin ring with the idea she was right. This man was Bartley Palmer. At the same time Bishop Marvin's daughter read an essay on "The Almighty Dollar," which was considered so fine it was published.

After the war Mr. Robinson closed his school in Danville and reopened it in St. Joe, Missouri, as Patee Female Seminary. Four of the buildings of Danville Female Academy are still standing. Two of these buildings are used for dwellings, the public school is conducted in another, and the fourth, the Chapel of the Academy, was bought by the Methodist congregation for their house of worship.

The first public school of which we have found a record was taught by Miss Harriett McGhee in 1848. She still has her certificate, dated September 5th, 1848.

The schools in Danville always have ranked with the best in standard for scholarship. Mr. A. L. Jenness was for many years the principal of the public school.

Colonel L. A. Thompson in writing of Danville in 1879 said, "The county seat is on the Boone's Lick

Road. . . . It has always had good educational facilities. The people are cultured and sociable. Society is refined. Those who have resided or been educated there remember the place pleasantly. There is a very popular public school at which collegiate branches are taught with rare success. The water is fine. Within a few rods of the court house there are many wells that are supported by living streams. There is a bank of superior coal near the town, and also a good quality of marble. Three miles west of town, far enough for a pleasant drive, is the celebrated Loutre Lick Springs."

The first county fair in Montgomery county was held on the S. M. Baker farm about one-half mile east of Danville, in 1858. The association was given use of the grounds free by the owner. Jacob See was the first president and W. D. Bush secretary. It was organized by all the business men and farmers around. Prominent among the organizers were Thos. J. Powell Jacob See, William Saulsbury, Sylvester Taylor (son-in-law of Bernard Pratt of St. Louis), Major Ben Sharp, S. M. Baker, the Talbot, Jacobs, Stevens, and Knox families.

Norman J. Colman delivered the opening address. It was one of the big affairs of the day and attended by people from all the adjoining counties. Within recent years the writer has seen the stumps of the huge posts which supported the main building. A cream ladle, given at this fair as a premium for a calf, is still in use and in perfect condition on the table in the home of the late S. M. Baker. The soldiers of both the North and South during the Civil War camped and rested here, enjoying the shelter of the spacious buildings. A small hole made by a rifle ball in the front of the Baker residence still bears evidence of a skirmish in the opposite pasture during the soldiers' encampment.

In July, 1861, the people throughout the entire county were shocked to hear that Major Ben. Sharp had been murdered by a band of bushwhackers led by Alvin Cobb. Major Sharp had offered his services for the defense of the Union. The papers for his commission as colonel were in his pocket when he was killed. He was buried with military honors in the cemetery at Danville. His grave is marked by a monument erected by the Masonic Lodge at Danville, of which he had been an honored member. The monument bears this inscription:

"Col. Benjamin Sharp, died July 18, 1861,  
age 41 yrs. & 3 mos. At the time of his death  
was M. W. P. G. Master of Masonic Order of  
Missouri."

In the early 30s Danville was noted as being a great Methodist center. It was the mother church in the county north of the Missouri river. Danville was the home of Rev. Andrew Monroe who organized the Danville M. E. Church in 1836. He was the presiding elder of the district. His charge reached from the Missouri river to Glasgow, Mo. Revs. Andrew Monroe, W. W. Redman (considered one of the most eloquent men of the time), J. M. Jamison, Dr. Richard Bond, L. T. McNeily, Bro. Penny, W. F. Bell, and J. O. Edmondson have served this church. Rev. W. W. Redman and Dr. Richard Bond made Danville their home and are buried in family cemeteries near the town. Bro. Penny, also, lived in Danville for years.

The first Methodist church, a brick structure, was built in 1848, and was dedicated by Bishop E. M. Marvin in 1850. Captain John Baker donated the bell. This building is still in good condition. "Of the first members there were Charles Drury and wife, Capt. John Baker and wife, Ira H. Ellis and wife, Joseph P. Wiseman and wife, and James H. Robinson and wife."

Danville in her time contributed some of the best newspapers of the county. William C. Lovelace published the "Chronicle" in Danville in 1860. In 1861 this paper was edited by Gen. Dan M. Draper under the name of "The Herald." The Danville "Star" was established by Gen. Dan. M. Draper in 1867. He sold the material for this paper in about 1870 to the "Montgomery Standard." "The Ray" was established December 7, 1871 by Col. L. A. Thompson who published the paper in Danville for five years. The office of "The Ray" was in the little brick school house formerly used for the McGhee School.

The first A. F. & A. M. Lodge in Montgomery county was organized in Danville in 1843. The Charter was issued to Danville Lodge No. 72 from the Masonic Grand Lodge, Oct. 16, 1844. The original members were John Scott, A. O. Forshey, William G. Monroe, Philander Draper, David M. Rice, Richard Bond, Geo. Y. Bast, Chas. C. Hewet, D. W. Baker, Jas. H. Robinson, S. M. Baker, J. M. Forshey, Ira H. Ellis, Tilford Taylor, William Knox, J. L. Sharp, J. P. Wiseman, and Wm. P. Talbot. The officers were John Y. Scott, W. M.; Geo. Y. Bast, S. W.; William G. Monroe, J. W.; and Richard Bond, clergyman.

The records, jewels and charter of Danville Lodge were destroyed by fire the night of Bill Anderson's raid, Oct. 14, 1864. Charter No 72 was reissued by the Grand Lodge, May 26, 1865. The membership of Danville Lodge No. 72 was transferred to New Florence Lodge No. 261, May 7, 1892.

S. M. Baker was the only charter member who was living and a member of Danville Lodge at the time the membership was transferred.

Dr. M. M. Maughs, S. C. Ruby, and Nathaniel Dryden were chosen at a meeting held in Danville in March, 1836, to attend the first railroad convention which was

to meet in St. Louis in April, 1836. These representatives hoped to have sufficient influence to secure the building of a railroad through their part of the state. They were successful in part as is shown by the following resolution which was adopted:

“That the proposed railroad from St. Louis to Fayette ought to cross the Missouri river at St. Charles and through or within one mile of the several towns of Warrenton, Danville, Fulton, and Columbia, the said towns being points most acceptable to the people of the counties through which the road is proposed to pass.”

It was in 1854 when Major Ben. Sharp, as senator, and S. M. Baker, as representative, were elected from Danville on what was called the “Railroad Ticket.” These gentlemen were anxious to secure the loan of \$100,000 from the state for the building of the much-needed North Missouri Railroad (now the Wabash). This bill was vetoed by Governor Sterling Price, but by uniting their influence with the influence of the counties from southwest Missouri, who desired to have the “bounty on wolf scalps” continued, enough votes were secured to carry the measure over the Governor’s veto. When the railroad was built it passed five miles north of Danville. This was the first factor in the hindrance of her rapid growth and prosperity, but it did not curb her standard for education or influence for good. Another agent which struck a deadly blow at the very existence of this splendid old town was the visit of Bill Anderson’s raiders on the night of October 14, 1864.

The night was clear and the moonlight so bright it is said one could have read a newspaper. A group of citizens were standing on the street corner discussing, no doubt, the all-absorbing subject of the time, the war. They were attracted by a line of horsemen rapidly and noiselessly approaching the town. The band of fifty guerrillas charged upon the peaceful town, shot down

her honorable citizens, robbed the stores and homes of all the goods that could be carried away, and as they departed applied the torch leaving Danville in flames. The home of my own mother was twice set on fire on this night. It was the heroic effort of the mother and children that saved it from the flames. When the morning of October 15th dawned but few homes were left, the town was all but destroyed, the priceless records of the county since 1818 had been burned. Henry L. Diggs, Merrill S. Simons, and Michael A. Gilbert (all members of Company C) had been murdered. Dr. Samuel M. Moore had hurried to the assistance of his friends only to be brutally beaten and killed. Ira Chin, a mere child, was shot by a bloodthirsty guerrilla while riding past the Widow Chin's home. Benjamin Palmer, an honored and respected citizen, had been seriously wounded and left to perish near the flames of his own home. He managed to drag himself to a place of protection from the heat and his wouldbe murderers. Mr. Palmer afterward served as postmaster in Danville for twenty-four years. Col. L. A. Thompson was postmaster at this time and the office with all its papers and records was destroyed.

John Britt, merchant in Danville at present, was in Danville the night of October 14, 1864, and witnessed the tragedy.

The new brick court house was made ready for use in 1867 and this building with the precious records of the county stored therein has since been destroyed by fire.

The last agent, equally as ruthless as the fire, is the destructive influence of continuous dissension from without, but the spirit of the old town remains united, just, and honorable.

Danville was first incorporated as a town by the Legislature, March 2, 1855.<sup>6</sup> It was incorporated as a city of the fourth class in April, 1878. The petition ask-

ing to have Danville incorporated as a town was sent to the Legislature bearing the names of two-thirds of the citizens of the town. This petition is in the hands of the writer. So far as I have been able to investigate, only two of the signers are living, W. D. Bush of Fulton, and Laban Ford who still resides in Danville. This petition was presented to the Legislature by S. M. Baker who was representative at that time. I desire also to place on the honor roll an additional list of names of men who lived in Danville and were closely connected with the life and influence of Danville. Among those representing the bar were Capt. Stuart Carkner, Thos. J. Powell, Robt. P. Terrill, Gus. Sanders, Nathaniel Dryden, Judge E. M. Hughes, Judge Wm. R. Harris, Gen. Daniel M. Draper, Judge Robert W. Jones, and Judge Walter L. Lovelace. Judge Lovelace was the first attorney of Danville, served two terms as a member of the Legislature, and was Speaker of the House of the Twenty-third General Assembly. At the time of his death in 1866, he was Judge of the Supreme Court of Missouri. Judge Lovelace is buried in Danville Cemetery. Among the well known physicians were Mordecai M. Maughs, W. E. Adams, respected as a citizen, eminent as a physician, fearless in his service for the Union, and influential in public affairs, Dougald F. Stevens, B. F. Sharp, and Wm. E. Worthington.

We have reviewed the life of this grand old town. The people not only believed in education but respected

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6. The following were the signers to the petition: C. G. Blades, L. K. Ford, Jas. L. Pegrom, A. C. Stewart, Wm. D. Bush, E. N. Fitzhugh, Wm. S. Watkins, John Baker, Rufus Clark, J. D. Maupin, John B. Smith, John G. Williams, Simon T. Bundel, G. M. Craig, John J. Hill, Ezekiel McCarthy, W. B. Adams, L. M. White, L. G. Drury, Thos. J. Johnson, A. W. Schuyler, Elliott Hughes, Jos. Custer, Ira H. Ellis, Wm. C. Ford, Wm. E. Worthington, Hiram Schambach, H. S. Clanton, M. M. Ramsey, John W. Moore, Mary Anderson, Thos. L. Barret.

and revered the church. They were hospitable, intelligent, and entertained the highest regard for women. The love of fair play has ever been a marked characteristic of her people. It would be impossible to express in words the tribute my heart struggles to dictate.

“You may break, you may shatter the vase if  
you will,

But the scent of the roses will hang round it  
still.”

May I call your attention for a brief moment to the efforts of the present generation to carry forward the far-reaching circles of influence set in motion in these by-gone days? Imbued with the spirit of Old Danville, six daughters of Ann Drace and Archibald White and likewise six daughters of Frances Stevens and Sylvester Marion Baker entered the educational field. Four sisters of the Baker family still hold responsible positions in this work. Myrtle Ford, daughter of Laban Ford, is at present teaching the school at Danville where we all received our early training. Ida White is assistant editor of “The Delineator,” and Sallie White is the wife of Theodore Dreisser, a well-known novelist of New York. Jessie Gupton is assistant voice teacher at Hardin College. Robert Wheeler is a prosperous and wealthy merchant of Brooklyn, New York. Arthur Bush owns a large wholesale boot and shoe establishment in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Richard Drace White leads all his contemporaries in rank and position. Richard is now Lieutenant-Commander of the Navy. He is at present attaché of the American Embassy at Rome, Italy. It was his honor to be presented to the King of Rome a few weeks ago. He carried a message to His Majesty from the President of our country.

“Both justice and decency require that we should bestow on our forefathers an honorable remembrance.”

## MISSOURI'S ELEVEN STATE CAPITOLS.

May 6th, 1913, at the City of Jefferson, ground was broken for the construction of the new State Capitol. Among the addresses delivered at the ceremony was the following by Cornelius Roach, of Carthage, Missouri, Secretary of State of Missouri:

"On occasions of this character, men are wont to grow retrospective, particularly on matters historical. The general public may be surprised at the statement that the new Capitol, for which ground is broken today, is the eleventh State Capitol of Missouri. In a general way a "Capitol" is a State House, but the burden of authorities limits one to the conviction that strictly speaking a "Capitol" is the building in which the Legislative Body meets. When Shakespeare said, 'Comes Cæsar to the Capitol tomorrow?' he referred to the Temple of Jupiter, at Rome, on the Mons Capitolinus, where the Senate met, the Senate being the Legislative Body of the government at that time.

"The first Legislative Body charged with the duty of making laws for this State was the Constitutional Convention, which met in June, 1820, for the purpose of framing a Constitution for the prospective State to be known as Missouri. This Body met in a hotel in St. Louis, known as the Mansion house, located on the northeast corner of Third and Vine. The building was a three-story brick structure, and was then regarded as one of the most pretentious buildings west of the Mississippi River. The forty-one members of that Body held their deliberations, the five weeks of their session, in the spacious dining hall of the hotel. This 'Mansion House' hotel was built in 1816 by Gen. Wm. Rector, a member of the first Constitutional Convention and United States Surveyor-General for Illinois and Mis-

souri. The structure was built for his office and residence, but, in 1819, he enlarged the house and converted it into a hotel. As such it was occupied for many years, during which period it was the scene of many interesting and noteworthy incidents. Theatrical companies for lack of more suitable houses performed in the dining room of this historical hostelry, and, for many years, it was the principal ball room in St. Louis, where the society of the city held its most fashionable functions.

"The second building which Missouri used as a Capitol was the one in which the first State Legislature met, in September, 1820, after the State had been admitted to the Union. This Capitol was the 'Missouri Hotel,' built by Thomas Brady in 1819. It was built of stone with three stories and basement, and was situated on the southwest corner of Main and Morgan. For years the 'Missouri Hotel' stood as one of the most notable landmarks of St. Louis. It disappeared in 1873, when it was razed to give place to a business structure. In its day, this was the finest hotel in the Mississippi Valley. In this Capitol, the Legislature canvassed the election returns and announced the election of Alexander McNair as Missouri's first Governor. These returns also showed the election of John Scott as the first member of Congress. The first Governor appointed the Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, and Attorney General. These appointees, however, all resigned within a year, wherein we observe that history in some instances does not often 'repeat itself.' In the dining room of the 'Missouri Hotel,' where was held the joint session of the Legislature, composed of fourteen State Senators and forty-three members, David Barton and Thomas Benton were elected the first United States Senators. The former was unanimously elected, but the election of the latter was attended by a long and bitter contest.

The man, who cast the deciding ballot, was carried, bed and all, from an upper room in the hotel, into the joint session, and so sick that he was scarcely able to lift his head from the pillow. While an impressive silence prevailed, he raised his voice, cast his ballot for Benton, and broke the deadlock that had last for weeks. A few days later, the sick man died. Before the Legislature adjourned, the county from which he came was named 'Ralls,' in his honor. This session of the Legislature passed an act making St. Charles the State capital until October, 1826. Before closing its deliberations, the First General Assembly passed an act providing for the selection of a permanent seat of government, and named a commission of five citizens to locate the new capital. These commissioners were by law allowed four dollars per day for their services, but the time of their service was limited to twenty-five days. In June, 1821, a special session of the Legislature was held in St. Charles, the temporary capital. The third Capitol, the one used in St. Charles, was a plain, two-story, brick building, about twenty by thirty feet, with a saddleback roof. December 31st, 1821, the act was approved, which the Legislature in session at St. Charles passed, which fixed the location of the permanent seat of government on the south bank of the Missouri river, within forty miles of the mouth of the Osage, on four certain sections of land specified in that act. December 31st, annually, should be a red-letter day in the 'City of Jefferson,' that being the name given by law to the permanent capital of the State.

Nearly a year later, the act was approved which named Josiah Ramsey, Jr., John Gordon, and Adam Hope, trustees charged with the duty of building in the City of Jefferson a brick structure not to exceed forty by sixty feet, to be two stories in height. These trustees

chose the hill in the City of Jefferson now occupied by the Executive Mansion as the place for the new State House. The law creating the trustees stated that the building should be made suitable for the residence of the Governors, but that it should contain two large rooms, and should be built with two large fireplaces—the large rooms to be made suitable for the use of the two houses of the Legislature, the Senate on the second floor and the House on the first floor. The structure that was to serve as the fourth Capitol was to cost not to exceed \$25,000. On February 18th, 1825, an act was approved appropriating \$18,573 to the contractors that erected the Governor's House and State Capitol. A little over two years were required for the trustees to construct that Capitol. It is nowhere recorded that there was any complaint on the part of the public on account of the time consumed in constructing the first Capitol that Missouri taxpayers built for the State. At the same rate of expenditure, the Capitol building commissioners of 1911, having 160 times as much money to expend, may employ their time for 320 years, finish their task in 2233, and yet make as good progress as was made by their pioneer predecessors. In January, 1829, the Fifth General Assembly passed an act providing for public improvements at the State Capitol, the improvements to consist of a brick kitchen and a log, or frame, stable. The former was to be one-story high, sixteen by thirty feet, with partition, in order that one end might be used as a smoke-house. The cost of kitchen and stable was not to exceed \$500.

The Ninth General Assembly passed an act, approved February 2, 1837, creating a commission of the five elective State officers, and appropriating \$75,000 for a new Capitol, the new Capitol to be located on 'Capitol Hill,' the first hill west of the one now occupied by the 'Mansion.' The new structure was to be of sufficient

size to accommodate the House of Representatives and the Senate, a State Library, executive rooms, and State offices, to be fire-proof, inside and out, to be covered with sheet copper or lead, the interior to be of brick and the exterior of stone. Before the work was begun, a fire on the 17th of November, 1837, completely consumed the Capitol that was constructed in 1825 and 1826, with all its precious historical contents, whereupon the Legislature met in the fifth Capitol, the Cole County Court House, until 1840, when it occupied the new building. Several different appropriations were made for the construction of the Capitol begun in 1837. When finished, the sixth Capitol cost nearly \$350,000. In his message to the Legislature of 1840, Governor Boggs praised the work of the contractor, stating among other things that the building was not only spacious and convenient but fire-proof. About three years were consumed in the construction of that Capitol, and, if the same rate of progress is made by the Commission of 1911, comparative expenditure considered, the eleventh Capitol will be finished about the year 1940. The first building that occupied 'Capitol Hill' was eighty-five by one hundred and ninety-two feet, had two floors and a basement, and a dome one hundred and thirty feet high. The walls were of brick and stone, the stone being taken from the bluffs in the immediate vicinity, with the exception of the stone in the stately columns fronting the rotunda, which stone was quarried in the bluffs of Callaway county. As finished the sixth Capitol was said to be one of the three handsomest and most classical public buildings in the United States, the other two being the State Capitol on 'Capitol Hill' in Boston, and the present County Court House in the City of St. Louis, between 4th and Broadway. The beauty of Missouri's sixth Capitol was so widely advertised that architects from all over the

east, and some from Europe, came to the City of Jefferson to study its outlines and symmetry. That building served the purposes of the State until 1887, when the growth of the commonwealth necessitated additions and an entire remodeling. This, the seventh, Capitol was finished in 1888. A north wing and a south wing were added, each seventy-six by one hundred and nine feet, the central portion modified, the height of the dome increased to 185 feet, in an endeavor to make the outlines of the building proportionate, all at a cost of \$220,000. If the Capitol Commission of 1911 expends its appropriation at the same rate per year as the Capitol Commission of 1888 did, the building just begun will be completed in 1926. More than a year was consumed in constructing the seventh Capitol. The Governor, the Secretary of State, the State Auditor, the State Treasurer, the Attorney General, the Superintendent of Schools, and the Commissioner of Permanent Seat of Government, were constituted the commission in charge of the work. Again the law required that the building should be fire-proof. As near as work of that character was customarily done at that time, the building was fire-proof. Experience, however, has taught that not only must the floors, walls and ceilings be of fire-proof material but the framework, as well as the frames of the windows and doors, must be iron, steel, or concrete, or made of some other fire-resisting material in order to be fire-proof.

The floor space in the Capitol burned in 1911 was about 50,000 square feet. The eleventh Capitol will have a floor space of about 320,000 square feet, besides nearly three acres in the subbasement.

After the fire of 1911 that consumed the seventh Capitol, the Senate found temporary quarters in the court room of the Court En Banc in the New Supreme Court Building; the House found temporary quarters

in St. Peter's Hall on West High Street, these two structures containing the two legislative bodies thus making the eighth and ninth State Capitols for Missouri.

The tenth and present temporary Capitol was constructed in three months, during 1912, at a cost of \$51,000. Every citizen of the State who has seen this temporary Capitol is astonished at the rapidity with which the building was constructed. The unthinking might be warranted in believing that if the new Capitol is constructed with equal speed universal satisfaction will follow. A little mental arithmetic in round numbers, however, will banish that conclusion, for an expenditure of \$50,000 in three months means only \$200,000 a year. As \$3,000,000 is fifteen times \$200,000, the new Capitol will be finished in 1928, if the same speed is adopted as characterized the construction of this temporary Capitol. We have the assurance, however, of the architects of the eleventh Capitol, Messrs. Tracey and Swartwout of New York, and are cheered by the expressed conviction of the members of the Capitol Building Commission, Messrs. E. W. Stephens of Columbia, Chairman, A. A. Speer of Chamois, J. C. A. Hiller of Glencoe, and Theo. Lacaff of Nevada, who are in position to know whereof they speak, that the eleventh Capitol will be finished during 1916, in ample time for the session of the 49th General Assembly.

During the past ninety-three years, Missouri's population has increased from 66,000 to 3,300,000, or has, in other words, been multiplied by fifty; if the next ninety-three years shows a corresponding increase, Missouri's population in the year 2006 will be 165,000,000. The first Capitol Missouri built cost \$18,000 in 1825; the eleventh, for which we this 6th day of May, 1913, break ground, will cost almost two hundred times as much; if the next eighty-eight years shows the same rate of progress in Capitol investment, the year 2001 will see the be-

ginning of a Missouri Capitol costing \$700,000,000; or, if the expenditure for that purpose corresponds to the record made of population growth, the Capitol of the year 2000 will cost \$175,000,000, and instead of having a floor area of ten or eleven acres, the Missouri Capitol of the next century will have a floor area of 500 acres. Missouri's future measured by the progress made the past century challenges the imagination of a 20th century Jules Verne or Baron Munchausen. Not having the fancy of these world-renowned novelists, I leave to the patriotic, public-spirited citizens of the State the pleasures of dreaming of Missouri's future greatness and grandeur.

## THE COLUMBIA LIBRARY 1866-1892.

The old Columbia library belongs to the class of subscription libraries which were predecessors of the public libraries in the United States. The earlier libraries were naturally those founded and supported by private or corporate funds such as the Athenaeum and the Mercantile libraries. Since the establishment of public libraries supported by public taxes, the subscription libraries have decreased in number. The Columbia library, however, did not cease operations because of the establishment of a public library as the citizens of Columbia have never voted a tax for the support of this modern educational institution.

In 1866 some young men interested themselves in the mental and moral improvement of the citizens of Columbia. They met October 29th and organized the Columbia Library Association.<sup>1</sup> The object of the association as stated in the preamble of the constitution was: "To effect an organization which shall afford means for mental improvement, through the aids of books, periodicals, and interchange of thought, and shall perpetuate these advantages for the good of others; to furnish for ourselves and others recreation at once attractive and elevating, and thus do in part our duty against temptation and evil; to increase the now existent culture and intelligence of our community, by offering a sphere for its exercise and improvement. \* \* \*"<sup>2</sup>

A constitution was adopted by the conditions of which the Association was to provide a reading room

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1. The names of the young men were: Andrew Walker McAlester, Oren Root, William Sylvanus Pratt, Fred B. Young, Edwin William Stephens, Lewis Milton Switzler, Robert Thomas Prewitt, Arthur P. Selby, Irvine Oty Hockaday, Sanford Francis Conley, and others.

2. Missouri Statesman, Nov. 16, 1866.

with a supply of books and magazines; and offer a course of lectures and entertainments. The first officers of the Association were: President, Oren Root, Jr.; Vice-president, Frederick Bullock Young; treasurer, Andrew Walker McAlester; secretary, Arthur P. Selby. There were four classes of members: Honorary, life, general, and reading. Membership in the first was conferred by vote upon distinguished men. Life membership was bestowed upon such as paid into the library fund a sum of not less than twenty-five dollars. The general members were those who organized the association and such others as they voted to admit among their number. The membership fee for these was ten dollars without annual fees. The control of the society rested wholly in the general members. Reading members were those who enjoyed the privileges of the library and paid an annual fee of three dollars. The privilege of drawing books for home use was denied the reading members. "Any person, being either a permanent or temporary resident of Boone county," was eligible for membership.

The Association appealed to the citizens for gifts of money and books, and met with a hearty response. Within a month's time, books to the value of a thousand dollars were received, while more than that sum in money had been subscribed. The books were left at the homes or offices of Oren Root, Frederick Bullock Young, Arthur P. Selby, and Edwin William Stephens.

In December<sup>3</sup> the Association reported the fund of money donated to it as one thousand five hundred dollars, and that a room in the court house had been temporarily secured for the library. The Association planned to secure permanently two large rooms suitable for reading rooms. It is a remarkable fact that this Association

3. Missouri Statesman, Dec. 14, 1866.

effected a permanent organization, secured accommodations for a library, secured a large collection of books, and raised about one thousand five hundred dollars for the purchase of books within a month and a half. This indicated that the citizens of Columbia were in sympathy with the movement and that they were ready to assist with their means.

At the annual meeting December 24, 1869, the administration of the library was somewhat changed. It had been in charge of the officers of the Association. It was now placed in charge of a committee called the executive committee elected by the Association to have charge of the library during the year 1870.<sup>4</sup>

The library was established in the court house early in 1867, where it remained until it was transferred to Doctor Paul Hubbard's office some time previous to 1872. In 1875 the library was transferred to the home of George Wallace Trimble. The writer has been unable to find the reason for the transfer, either from the records or from members still living. It is probable that the Association was unwilling to continue the expense of a librarian.

The interest in the library decreased as the years went by, and it became burdensome to keep the library in good condition. The citizens withheld their support, enthusiasm waned, and the Association became embarrassed. The fees were not paying the current expenses. Several lectures and entertainments had been held, but the lecture halls were inadequate and unsuitable, consequently the returns were meagre. It therefore became impracticable to raise money from this source. It was at this juncture that a meeting of the stockholders was

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4. The members of the Committee were: Oren Root, Jr., Edwin William Stephens, William Sylvanus Pratt.

held March, 1875, to consider the disposition of the library. "Several propositions were submitted, discussed and rejected, but it was finally agreed that until otherwise ordered the books and book cases would be moved to the residence of Mr. G. W. Trimble; that they should be securely kept and the books given out only to life members, and to such annual members as have unexpired tickets, and that application be made as above only on Monday afternoons." The library remained here three years, during which time several entertainments were held for its benefit. In 1878 the two literary societies of the University of Missouri, the Athenaean and the Union literary, placed their collection of books in the library of the University where they could be used by students. Their books, however, were circulated for home use only to members of the respective societies.

This movement may have suggested to the Columbia Library Association the advisability of disposing of the Columbia library, a collection of eight hundred nine volumes. At any rate, the Columbia library was deposited in the University library in 1878, but it remained the property of the Association. Life members and those who paid a fee of three dollars were permitted to draw books from it. They had the privileges which they had previously enjoyed. They also had the University library and the society libraries for their use. On the other hand the students of the University could use the books of the several collections in the library, although they could not withdraw them for home use without paying society dues. The records do not show the final disposition of this library. From the proceedings of the Executive Board of the University of Missouri December 4, 1884, it appears that the Columbia Library Association disposed of the collection to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. The Board directed the librarian to

turn over to the agent of the Union all the property of the Columbia Library Association.

These books were not transferred as the Executive Board's action on August 26, 1885 shows: "Resolved that in replacing the books in the new Library Hall that the librarian will be particular to keep the books belonging to the society libraries in separate cases, and the books belonging to the old Columbia Library be kept in separate cases to prevent these books from being mixed, so that in the future, when a division may be called for, for the purpose of putting these books in different places, there shall be no difficulty or confusion, and that the books be permanently kept in the manner indicated."

From this evidence, it is safe to conclude that the Woman's Christian Temperance Union did not withdraw the books in 1884 and that the books remained a part of the library and were burned along with the University Library in 1892.

HENRY O. SEVERANCE.

## HON. JOHN BROOKS HENDERSON.

John B. Henderson was born near Danville, Pennsylvania county, Virginia, November 16, 1826, and when six years of age his parents came to Lincoln county, Missouri. Soon afterwards the parents died leaving only a small estate for the support and education of the boy. He succeeded, however, in obtaining a fair education, and while preparing for the profession of law he taught school, as has been done by so many persons in this country who have afterwards become prominent. He was admitted to the bar in 1848, and a year later he commenced the practice of law at Louisiana, Missouri. He became a successful lawyer, both as a pleader and as an advocate before juries. When only twenty-two years old he was elected in 1848 as a member of the 15th General Assembly from Pike county, and again in 1856 was elected for another term to the 19th General Assembly. While in the Legislature he was the author of various railroad and banking laws. His prominence in legislative work made him a presidential Buchanan elector, and in 1860 he was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention at Charleston, where he supported Douglas. He was also a candidate for Congress against James S. Rollins, the Whig candidate, and, though defeated, the race attracted general attention to him and put him among the foremost men of Missouri.

Following the election of Lincoln he realized that he would have to actively take sides with the South or for the Union, and realizing also that a border state on the weaker side would be ruin for the state, and although the facts that he was a slaveholder, a southern man and a Democrat would incline him towards the South, he threw his full influence for the Union. He was elected

a member of the Convention that was called to decide the question of Secession, and in that convention which remained in power for so long a time he was a ruler and a leader in saving the state to the Union. The course of events naturally put the state in the control of the Republican party, and Henderson's views on national questions made him work with that party. He was appointed a brigadier general and when he had put two regiments in the field, and the United States Senate had expelled from it, Trusten Polk, a Missouri member for disloyalty, Gov. Hall appointed him to the place. The next year he was elected to fill the term, and also for the full term beginning March 4, 1863. In that body he was the associate of and the worker with the great men of that war Senate,—with Fessenden, Wade, Wilmot, Chandler, John Sherman, Andy Johnson and others, and among such men he was appointed on the Finance, Foreign Relations, Postoffice, Indian Affairs, District of Columbia and other committees. He organized the Indian Peace Conference that secured peace with many of the Indian tribes. He wrote the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, abolishing slavery and introduced it in the Senate, and was also prominent in the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment.

The inevitable result of the war happened, and then came the plans for reconstruction. The Democrats held that no reconstruction was needed—that as soon as insurrection was suppressed, the states were restored to the status they held before secession. The radical Republicans held that the act of secession put the South on the footing of a foreign power. The Lincoln plan was stated by Senator Henderson:

"Under our system there can be no suicide of a state. Individual citizens by rebellion and disloyalty may forfeit their political rights, but the state as an en-

tirety commits no treason and forfeits no rights to existence. Under our Constitution the state cannot die. It is the duty of the Federal government to see that it does not die—that it shall never cease to exist. If the state be invaded from without, the duty of the general government is to protect and defend it. If domestic violence threatens the subversion of the local government, the Nation's duty is to intervene and uphold the hands of those who maintain the laws. The trustee of an express trust cannot excuse himself to the minority of the beneficiaries because the majority repudiate his agency.

"The United States shall guarantee to every State in the Union a republican form of government. No state is republican in form that does not acknowledge the supremacy of the Federal Constitution. This is the essential test of republicanism. No state can enter the Union without conforming its constitution to this supreme organic law. And whenever, by force or violence, a majority of its citizens undertake to withdraw the state from its obedience to Federal law and to repudiate the sovereignty of the Federal government, it at once becomes the duty of Congress to act.

"This duty of Congress is not to destroy or to declare it a suicide, and proceed to administer on its effects. On the contrary, the duty clearly is to preserve the state, to restore it to its old republican forms. Its duty is not to territorialize the state and proceed to govern it as a conquered colony. The duty is not one of demolition, but of restoration. It is not to make a constitution but to guarantee that the old constitution, or one equally republican in form, and made by the loyal citizens of the state, shall be upheld and sustained.

"If a majority of the people of the state conspire to subvert its republican forms, that majority may be, and

should be, put down by the Federal power, while the minority, however few, sustaining republican forms may be constitutionally installed as the political power of the state."

Henderson and other Republican Senators were in accord with the President, but the assassination brought about new troubles, and Johnson was impeached. Mr. Henderson was one of the seven Republicans who voted with the Democrats, and prevented the conviction of the President. Senator Henderson probably realized that his vote would retire him to private life, but he voted according to his convictions, and not according to the probable effect upon himself. He was a statesman and not a politician.

At the expiration of his term in the Senate he moved to St. Louis and entered again into the practice of law. His tastes led him rather to the work of a counsellor before the higher courts, where he could deal with principles and assist the judges of the higher courts in arriving at a decision that would be recognized as settled law.

In 1873 Mr. Henderson was the Republican nominee for United States Senator but was defeated by Bogy.

In May, 1875, he was appointed by Grant to assist in the prosecution of the famous "Whiskey Ring" case, in St. Louis and he pressed the prosecution without fear or favoritism. Soon he was the most extensive practitioner at the St. Louis bar, but he did not lose his interest in politics, and in 1882 was the Republican candidate for Governor, but was defeated. In 1884 he was president of the National Republican Convention that nominated James G. Blaine.

More than twenty years ago he retired from practice, and became a resident of Washington, where he and his wife were very prominent in the exclusive set at the Capital, and in diplomatic circles, their residence at Flor-

ida and Sixteenth streets, Boundary Castle, and popularly known as "Henderson's Castle" was one of the largest residences in Washington. His death there April 12, 1913 breaks one of the last links with the giants of 1861.

Mr. Henderson was a genial companion, a ready conversationalist, and the writer remembers that in traveling with him and his family from Paris to London, while crossing the Straits conversation with him was of such interest as to possibly take away the thoughts of seasickness. May the State long remember him and erect a memorial to him!

F. A. SAMPSON.

## MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS IN MISSOURI CEMETERIES.

### ELEVENTH PAPER.

The following are with some additions, from monuments of persons who died before 1875 or if of later date were more than 75 years old.

#### MARSHALL, MO.

Bernard, B. F., born in Boonville, Mo., May 1, 1832;  
died May 31, 1874.

Lillian, daughter of B. A. and M. J. Bernard; died Au-  
gust 9, 1875, aged 14 years, 10 months, 17 days.

William Thompson, son of B. F. and Mary J. Bernard;  
died April 25, 1872, aged 4 years, 6 months, 26 days.  
Jacob Fisher; died August 20, 1872, aged 63 years, 7  
months, 18 days.

Warren Bennett, son of W. J. and M. F. Fulkerson, born  
December 6, 1873; died August 29, 1874.

James W., son of W. A. Hazelwood; died a prisoner of  
war at Andersonville, Ga., June 14, 1864, aged 26  
years, 14 days.

Ellen, wife of Dr. Isgrig, born January 29, 1821; died  
August 25, 1884.

Mary Elizabeth, nee Kile, wife of Jno. N. Isgrig.

Harriet, wife of Milton McCormick; died July 14, 1874,  
aged 60 years.

Martha, wife of Fred Mistler born, March 6, 1842; died  
July 25, 1882.

Arthur J. Morgan, born August 4, 1837; died October 24,  
1877.

Robt. Todd Stuart, born in Lexington, Ky., April 10,  
1810; died September 23, 1880.

Elizabeth B. West; died May 18, 1873, aged 61 years, 29  
days.

## WARRENSBURG.

### OLD CEMETERY.

A. T. Adkins; died December 6, 1865.

David G. Allen, born December 29, 1824; died December 23, 1865.

J. F. C. Allen, born February 11, 1858; died February 25, 1864.

Alice Rush, daughter of W. N. and M. A. Anderson; died December 20, 1856, aged 4 years.

Sallie E., daughter of same; died December 11, 1859, aged 12 years, 5 months, 6 days.

Margaret Baker, born April 8, 1833; died January 30, 1852.

James Brommer; died December 9, 1865, aged 53 years, 9 months, 7 days.

James H. Brommer, private Co. A 7th Regt. M. S. M.; died July 2, 1862, aged 19 years, 6 months.

Juda, wife of James Brommer; died December 30, 1865, aged 59 years, 11 months, 20 days.

Predena A. Blevins; died February 15, 1875, aged 42 years.

Martha H., daughter of B. and A. Bryant; died January 12, 1885, aged 16 years, 5 months.

J. P. Booker; died November 8, 1861, aged 44 years, 6 months, 14 days.

John Calvin; died January 27, 1856, aged 61 years, 2 months, 21 days.

Matilda, wife of G. W. Campbell; died May 18, 1854, aged 35 years. She always rendered home happy.

Wm. M. Day, born August 17, 1824; died November 23, 1865.

F. Diener, born October 15, 1835, aged 35 years, 12 days.

Jno. S. Emerson, born September 11, 1897; died October 21, 1855.

Nancy K., wife of Jno. S. Emerson, born April 26, 1816; died Jan. 17, 1852.

Susan Ann Emerson, born April 28, 1822; died June 6, 1857.

Lucy Farmer, born April 5, 1895; died July 19, 1858.

Benj. Grainger; died August, 1840, in the 63d year of his age.

Wm. Gilkerson; died December 30, 1855, aged 56 years, 5 months, 26 days.

Margaret Ann, wife of Chesley Gates; died September 1, 1864, aged 47 years, 7 months, 26 days.

Wm. Gray; died May 6, 1891, aged 77 years.

A. H. Holinstine, Co. B, 4th M. S. M. Cav.

John Thomas, son of J. P. and M. B. Henshaw; died November 2, 1856, aged 5 years, 8 months, 22 days.

Elizabeth Eliza, daughter of same; died May 23, 1859, aged 10 years, 8 months, 26 days.

David H., son of B. N. & E. Johnson; died January 28, 1861, aged 19 years, 3 months, 16 days.

Charles Kuntz, born August 12, 1805; died 1864.

James Land, born January 7, 1818; died March 19, 1859.

Nancy, wife of J. L. Moody; died July 19, 1863, aged 38 years, 3 months, 8 days.

John Miller; died September 13, 1863, aged 49 years, 2 months, 29 days.

James R., son of A. W. and S. E. Markham; died August 28, 1867.

Chas. P., son of E. and M. L. Ogden, born March 5, 1835; died February 4, 1857.

Mary S., daughter of same, born September 6, 1837; died October 26, 1860.

Lucy T., wife of Dr. M. D. Pinkston; died August 25, 1852.

Naomi, wife of W. L. Paston; died July 24, 1854, aged 64 years.

W. Stevenson, born December 26, 1810; died March 28, 1862.

R. H. Smith; died August 4, 1856, aged 29 years, 4 months, 22 days.

Lewis G., son of C. O. and P. A. Silliman; died August 27, 1860, aged 11 months, 7 days.

Wm. C., son of W. C. S. Tomlin, born November 21, 1848; died June 1, 1864.

Mary E., wife of J. M. Wade; died January 9, 1866, aged 37 years, 21 days.

J. D. Warren; died August 22, 1840, aged 55 years.

Samuel West, 7th M. S. M. Cav.

Wm. W., husband of Jane Woodruff, born September 14, 1815; died July 5, 1861.

Thos. R. Wiatt; died September 12, 1845, aged 26 years, 6 months, 2 days.

James T. Williams; died September 18, 1859, aged 37 years, 8 months, 25 days.

## NOTES.

### SANTA FE MARKS.

May 17th, the beginning of the Santa Fe trail at the place where the old town of Franklin was, was marked by a granite block. Governor Major, Mr. E. W. Stephens, Mrs. John Van Brunt of Kansas City, President of the D. A. R. of Missouri, Miss Elizabeth Gentry of Kansas City, D. B. Kingsbury of Howard county and Major W. W. Carpenter of New Franklin were the speakers.

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### MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

At the last session of the Legislature of Minnesota an appropriation of \$500,000 was made for a building for the Historical Society, to be built near the new Capital building. The Society has files of nearly all the newspapers that have been printed in the territory and State since 1849. This department of its library is considered "a priceless treasury of materials for future historians."

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### BOOK NOTICES.

*Implement Blue Book.* 1913. St. Louis, Midland Publishing Co., n. d.

The above is one of the Record or Directory publications covering the entire country, but published in Missouri. This work of 543 pages is one that interests factories, jobbers, dealers and farmers, and especially for the dealer who will be called upon by the farmer for hurry repairs.

*A History of Northeast Missouri*, Edited by Walter Williams. In three volumes. The Lewis Pub. Co. Chi. & N. Y., 1913.

The above like other county and local histories of today is much of an improvement over the similar works of years ago, in that the historical part is not written by persons sent into the territory to get subscribers and write up paid biographies, and between other work write the history. Now this part of the work is done by prominent persons of the localities recorded, and under the name of the writer, thus insuring greater accuracy than the old plan. A number of the writers are shown to be connected with the State Historical Society, and many of the illustrations in the work were loaned for that purpose by the Society.

*The World's Greatest Migration*. The origin of the "White man." F. E. Roesler. Private edition, Kansas City, 1913.

This pamphlet of sixteen pages gives a supposed history of the Aryan and Mongol races for thousands of years back of the recognized chronology, and of Atlantis and other prehistoric continents, and of the changes of climate through a cycle of about 2500 years.

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#### NECROLOGY.

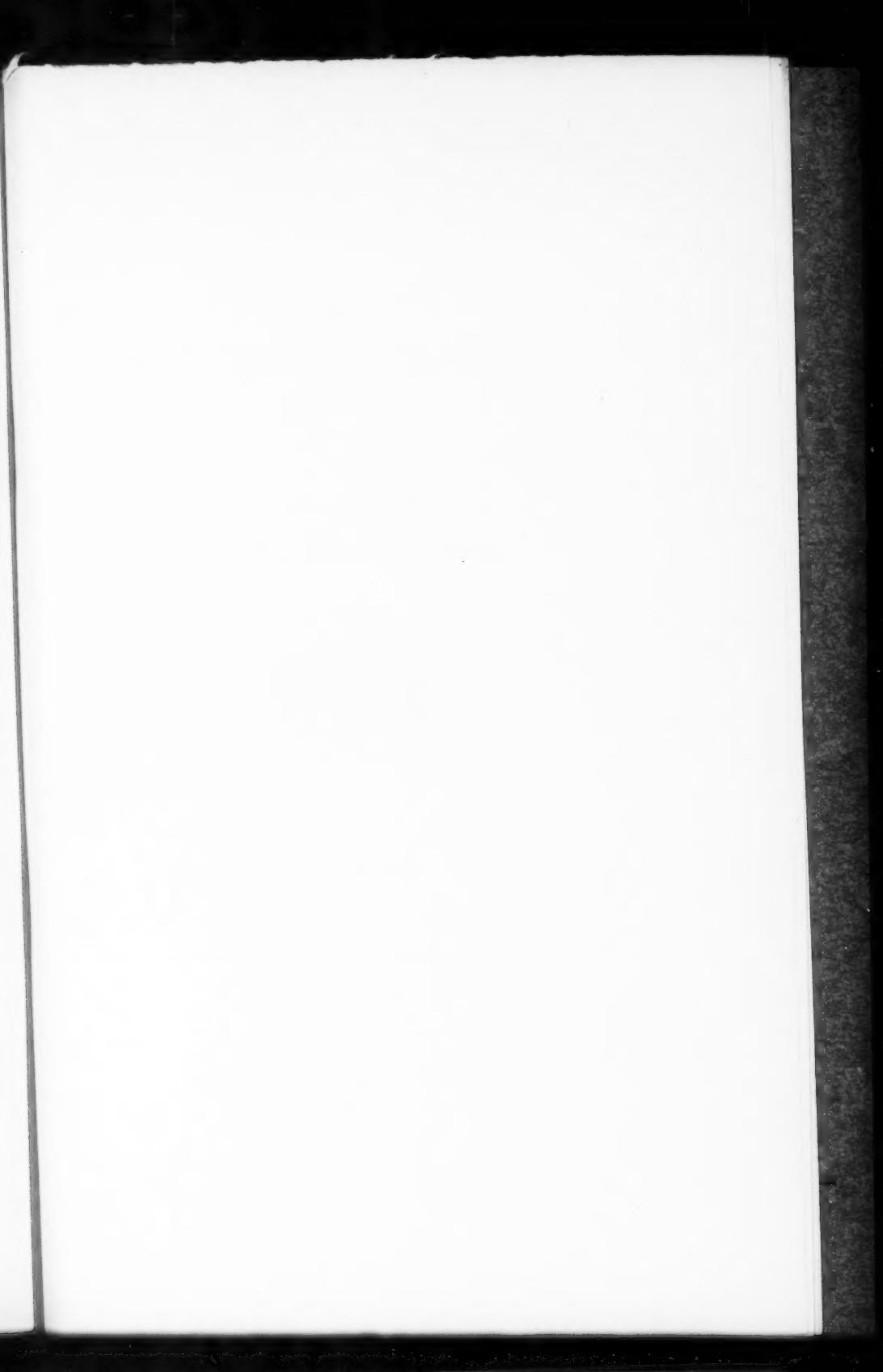
HENRY CADLE, a member of the society for years, residing at Bethany, Missouri, died there May 28, 1913. He was the founder of the Missouri branch of the Sons of the Revolution, and Secretary of it for nineteen years. He also helped to organize the Society of Colonial Wars in Missouri, and had been its registrar for the same length of time.

He was born at Muscatine, Iowa, December 25, 1851. Since 1890 he had lived at Bethany, engaged in the lumber business, and was one of the originators of the National Association of Retail Lumber Dealers, and for two years was its President.

He was an Odd Fellow, and in 1884 was the Grand Master of the State.

His work in connection with the two patriotic societies mentioned made him well known in the State, and the publications issued by him were of the highest excellence.

Miss MARY AUGUSTA WADSWORTH, a well known Shakespearean scholar and lecturer, died at the Parker Memorial Hospital, Columbia, April 28, 1913, at the age of seventy-two years. She was born in Massachusetts, and early became interested in the drama, and was nationally known from her studies and lectures in literature. Her work with Mr. E. J. White on "Commentaries on the Law in Shakespeare," was so important that he dedicated the volume to her, and wished to join her name as joint author. For the last ten years she was connected with Stephens College and Christian College, and she organized the Tuesday Club of Columbia.





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F. A. SAMPSON, Secretary,  
EDITOR.

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1913.

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